

App. No. 09/098,366
Amendment dated June 18, 2004
Reply to Advisory Action of March 15, 2004
(final Office action of December 19, 2003)

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for placing an insertion point in the electronic document, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text, wherein the existing text includes existing paragraph marks, existing characters or existing spaces;

(b) collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor;

(c) selecting one of a plurality of rules based on the collected context information;

(d) in response to selecting the rule, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate an anticipated location of the insertion point and the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor located in close proximity to the cursor location;

(e) determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document; and

(f) if so, then performing formatting based on the selected rule to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document comprises determining whether a button on a mouse has been double-clicked.

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4. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

if an indication has not been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document, then repeating steps (a)-(f).

5. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document comprises adding and deleting formatting properties from the electronic document.

6. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of collecting context information regarding determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text is performed in response to a change in the location of the cursor.

7. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein each one of the plurality of rules is associated with one of a plurality of triggers, and wherein the step of selecting a coinciding rule from one of a plurality of rules based on the collected context information comprises matching the collected context information with one of the plurality of triggers and selecting the rule associated with the matched trigger as the coinciding rule.

8. (Original) The method recited in Claim 7, wherein each one of the plurality of rules is further associated with a sequence of formatting steps, and wherein the step of performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document comprises performing the sequence of formatting steps associated with the coinciding rule.

9. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 8.

10. (Currently Amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for displaying a cursor, the method comprising the steps of:

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- (a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text, ~~wherein the existing text includes existing paragraph marks, existing characters or existing spaces;~~
- (b) collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor by:
~~if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;~~
~~if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text otherwise,~~ collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor;
- (c) applying the collected context information to a database of a plurality of rules to determine whether the collected context information coincides with one of the plurality of rules;
- (d) if so, then determining one of a plurality of cursors associated with the coinciding rule, ~~wherein the cursor indicates the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor;~~ and
- (e) displaying the associated cursor ~~such that text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor are formatted based on the type of formatting indicated by the cursor.~~

11. (Original) The method recited in Claim 10 wherein the associated cursor indicates the anticipated location of an insertion point in the electronic document.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of repeating steps (a)-(e) as the cursor is moved around the electronic document.

14. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 13.

15. (Currently Amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic file, a method for adjusting the location of an insertion point in an electronic file to match the location of a cursor, the method comprising the steps of:

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(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic file is positioned over existing text, ~~wherein the existing text includes existing paragraph marks, existing characters or existing spaces;~~

(b) collecting context information regarding a location of a cursor in the electronic file by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

~~if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text otherwise,~~
collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor;

(c) applying the collected context information to a database of a plurality of rules to determine whether the collected context information coincides with one of the plurality of rules;

(d) if so, then adjusting the location of the insertion point to the location of the cursor based upon the coinciding rule; and

(e) displaying the cursor at the insertion point such that the cursor indicates the type of formatting that will be applied to text objects inserted at the insertion point determining whether the location of the insertion point matches the location of the cursor; and

(f) — if not, then repeating steps (a) — (e).

16. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 15 wherein the step of adjusting the location of the insertion point ~~based upon the coinciding rule~~ comprises applying formatting properties to the electronic file.

17. (Original) The method recited in Claim 16 wherein the formatting properties are stored in association with the coinciding rule.

18. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 17.

19. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the indication comprises a first click and a second click and wherein the insertion point is placed at a first location in

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response to the first click and wherein the insertion point is placed at a second location in response to the second click.

20. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of receiving an actualization input before performing the step of performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document.~~

21. (Currently Amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for placing an insertion point in the electronic document, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over an existing line;

(b) collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by:[[:]]

if the location of the cursor is positioned over the existing line, then collecting context information associated with the existing line;

if the location of the cursor is not positioned over the existing line
otherwise, collecting context information associated with an existing line that is proximate to the location of the cursor;

(c) selecting one of a plurality of rules based on the collected context information;

(d) in response to selecting the rule, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate ~~an anticipated location of the insertion point and the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor located in close proximity to the cursor location;~~

(e) determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document; and

(f) if so, then performing formatting based on the selected rule to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for editing an electronic document comprising:

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displaying a cursor at a location in the electronic document, wherein the cursor indicates the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects inserted at the cursor location;

receiving a notification of an intent to create an insertion point at the a cursor location in the electronic document; and

if the cursor location corresponds to no existing text, automatically making formatting adjustments sufficient to create the insertion point at the cursor location.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the formatting adjustments comprise adding paragraph marks sufficient to extend existing text to a vertical location proximate to the cursor location.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 23, wherein the formatting adjustments comprise characters, tabs, or spaces sufficient to extend existing text to a horizontal location proximate to the cursor location.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the formatting adjustments comprise characters, tabs, or spaces sufficient to extend existing text to a horizontal location proximate to the cursor location.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, automatically making formatting adjustments further comprising identifying context information for existing text proximate to the cursor location and making formatting adjustments at the insertion point at the cursor location.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the no existing text corresponds to a location in a graphical representation of the electronic document at which no document content exists.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the no existing text corresponds to a location in a graphical representation of the electronic document outside an end of document marker.